

Face The State 2nd Quarter 2011

4/3 N/A Children's programs

4/10 KPAX Host: Russ Thomas
Guest: Emily Wieler

(This program aired 4/17 9:30-10am due to technical difficulties)

Russ Thomas hosted the segment. He interviewed Emily Wieler, who is the state's only Certified Pollen Specialist. She discusses her job description, what it took to be a Certified Pollen Specialist, what months certain trees/plants/weeks pollenate... and gives her pollen "forecast" for this spring.

4/17 KRTV Host: Heath Heggem
Guest: Gina Loss National Weather Service Sr Hydrologist

Gina Loss, National Weather Service Senior Hydrologist is the guest.. She talks about flooding in Northeast Montana and the long, wet winter we've had around the state. She recently spent a few days in Glasgow and has both a scientific and first-hand perspective on the flooding in that area..

4/24 KBZK Host: Adam Bell
Guest: Beverly Johnston Consumer Credit Counseling

Consumer Credit Counseling is a non-profit credit counseling firm that provides credit counseling, budget counseling, pre-bankruptcy counseling, foreclosure and reverse mortgage counseling for anyone in the state. Beverly talked about the financial problems that many people have today and how Consumer Credit Counseling can help people manage their credit.

5/1 KTVQ Host: Jay Kohn
Guest: Ian McDonald, Board President, Zoo Montana

The future of ZooMontana was the topic of today's program. The Billings based zoo, is facing the possible loss of its accreditation from the Association of Zoo's & Aquariums (AZA). This past week, AZA representatives conducted an on-site visit to ZooMontana to better assess the situation.

Board President Ian McDonald spoke at length about ZooMontana's history, it's business plan, and the current financial challenges facing the zoo. We talked at length about what might happen if the AZA accreditation is lost, the impact such action would have on the zoo's exhibits, animals and future.

McDonald spoke how ZooMontana has become more of a regional zoo, and how recent donations have poured in from all across Montana, Wyoming and North Dakota.

5/8 KPAX Host: Angela Marshall
Guests: Jill Valley & Dr. Mike Snyder Oncologist

Last July, KPAX Evening News Anchor, Jill Valley, made the startling announcement that she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Almost 10 months later, she joins us for this special edition Face the State to give us an up-close-and-personal account of her battle with breast cancer and her road to recovery. But, she is not alone in her recovery process. She is joined by Dr. Michael Snyder, a Medical Oncologist at The Montana Cancer Center at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula. He will tell us more about the aftermath of breast cancer detection, surgery and radiation.

5/15 KRTV Host: Heath Heggen
Guest: Dave Cunninham Public Affairs Officer for
Lewis and Clark National Forrest

They talked about the location of the Lewis and Clark National Forrest and new things at the Lewis and Clark Nat'l Forrest. There is still a lot of snow as we transition into the summer season. Many of the camp sites will not be open by Memorial Day weekend due to the increased snow pack in the mountains.

5/22 KBZK Host: Mike Herd
Guest: Mike Stickney Director of Earthquake Studies MT. Tech

Stickney explained the likelihood of earthquakes in Montana. He talked about the fact that southwest Montana is the 2nd most earthquake prone area in the United States because we live along the inter mountain seismic belt.

5/29 KTVQ Host: Jay Kohn
Guest: Carter Stuart Billings Geologist

They discussed the oil boom in the Bakken area. The Bakken deposit is a 25,000 square mile oil deposit. As many as 100 wells a month are being drilled. They talked about the impact this will have on the area as well as the future of oil drilling in Montana.

6/5 KPAX Host: Jill Valley
Guest: Laurence Hubbard CEO/President Montana State Fund
Jason Miller Co-Chair Labor Management Advisory Committee

Hubbard and Miller discussed the Montana State Fund and the changes to the worker's compensation program implemented by the 2011 Legislature. We talked about why change was needed, what the benefits to a rate reduction will be to those Montana businesses who use the insurance program and what kind of injuries are most

commonplace in Montana's workforce.

6/12 KRTV Host: Tim McGonigal
Guest: Jim Hantz, Air Traffic Manager at Great Falls International Airport

Jim Hantz talked about the process and education needed to become an air traffic controller. He also addressed some of the unique challenges faced by air traffic controllers at the Great Falls tower. He also spoke about how the FAA is addressing fatigue issues in the industry on a national scale.

6/19 KBZK Host: Jeff Kelly
Guests: Ronda Tompers/President, Montana Association of Realtors & Glenn Oppel/Government Affairs Director, Montana Association of Realtors

Topic: Annual report on the state of Montana real estate.

Discussion:

Host Jeff Kelly spoke with the realtors association representatives about the latest statewide housing report and what it means for Montana homeowners and homebuyers. Gallatin and Flathead counties remain places where housing is considered unaffordable. The guests explained what that means and how it affects families.

There was also discussion about foreclosure rates and what that means for homeowners. We discussed how Montana compares to other western states and the country in general when it comes to home sales and foreclosure rates.

And we talked about impact fees, or money paid by developers to local municipalities when homes are built or subdivisions are created. Bozeman has the highest fees in the state at about \$10,000 per lot. There was discussion about how that affects the local real estate market.

6/26 KTVQ Host: Jon Stepanek
Guest: Bob Gibson Fish Wildlife & Parks Information Officer

They talked about how the winter snowfall and the spring rainfall have affected access to state camp grounds and how it has affected outdoor activities.